

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 OTTAWA 01581 160117Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DHA-02 SCSE-00 H-02 L-03 SCA-01 /021 W
-----161129Z 049089 /23-12

R 160050Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2794

UNCLAS OTTAWA 01581

FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY HARTMANN FROM ENDERS

EO 11652: N/A
TAGS: CASC, CA, AFSP
SUBJECT: CONSULAR VISITS TO AMCIT PRISONERS

REF: (A) OTTAWA 1569; (B) STATE 44225; (C) 76 OTTAWA 4083

1. I WOULD LIKE TO CALL YOUR ATTENTION TO SERIES OF TELEGRAMS EXCHANGED BETWEEN EMBASSY AND DEPARTMENT ON SUBJECT OF CONSULAR VISITS TO AMERICAN CITIZENS IMPRISONED IN CANADA. BRIEFLY, DEPARTMENT BY MESSAGE HAS INSISTED THAT ALL PRISONERS MUST BE VISITED MONTHLY, WHILE EMBASSY AND CONSTITUENT POSTS HAVE ARGUED THAT LESS FREQUENT SCHEDULE WOULD BE ADEQUATE UNDER CANADIAN CONDITIONS. SUBSTANTIAL ADDITIONAL RESOURCES WOULD BE REQUIRED TO MEET MONTHLY VISITATION REQUIREMENT.

2. I UNDERSTAND AND SUPPORT DEPARTMENT'S COMMITMENT TO CONGRESS CONCERNING CARE FOR AMERICAN CITIZEN PRISONERS ABROAD. OUR REQUEST FOR RELIEF FROM MONTHLY VISITATION REQUIREMENT IS NOT BASED ON EXPEDIENCY OR LACK OF CONCERN FOR PRISONERS. RATHER, IT STEMS FROM ASSESSMENT SHARED BY ALL PRINCIPAL OFFICERS AND CONSULAR SECTION CHIEFS IN CANADA THAT TREATMENT OF PRISONERS UNDER CANADIAN PENAL SYSTEM IS AS HUMANE AND FAIR AS TREATMENT THEY WOULD RECEIVE IN UNITED STATES INSTITUTIONS.

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3. I FIND NO INDICATION IN TELEGRAMS FROM DEPARTMENT THAT EUR HAS BEEN CONSULTED ON THIS ISSUE, OR INDEED, THAT DEPARTMENT HAS SERIOUSLY ADDRESSED SUBSTANCE OF OUR ARGUMENTS. WE ARE DEALING WITH BOTH MAJOR DIVERSION OF EXISTING RESOURCES, AND POTENTIAL NEED TO REQUEST EVEN MORE FROM DEPARTMENT. IN MY VIEW, ALLOCATION OF PERSONNEL AND

TRAVEL FUNDS NECESSARY TO FULFILL MONTHLY VISITATION REQUIREMENTS WOULD CONSTITUTE MISMANAGEMENT OF SCARCE AND VALUABLE RESOURCES. I WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR ASSISTANCE IN ENSURING THAT ALL INTERESTED OFFICES OF DEPARTMENT STUDY THIS MATTER FULLY BEFORE FINAL DECISIONS ARE MADE.

4. MANY THANKS FOR YOUR ATTENTION AND ASSISTANCE.
ENDERS

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Sent Date: 16-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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